

**Work of the National Conference of the Brethren Church, Held at Warsaw, Ind.,
Aug. 25 to 30, 1898**

The eleventh National Conference of the Brethren church was opened by Moderator Tombaugh and singing "Praise God from whom all blessings flow," led by Prof. Ewing. Devotions were led by Rev. Harrison, of Falls City, Neb.

The following Credential committee was appointed by the chair: Zed Copp, Daniel Crofford, J. M. Bowman. During the time that elapsed while the Credential committee was preparing their report the meeting was open for singing and impromptu speeches.

Credential committee read a partial report. Moved and carried that the report of Credential committee be accepted and the committee be continued.

Moved and carried that the moderator and vice-moderator be elected by ballot. On the first ballot a majority of votes cast elects or in case of no election on first ballot, on the second ballot the two having greatest number of votes on first ballot be the nominees.

Moved and carried that we elect a press secretary whose duty it shall be to supply reports to the secular papers.

Moved and carried that the secretaries be elected by acclamation.

Tellers appointed by the chair: J. H. Knepper, J. M. Bowman, I. D. Bowman. Report of tellers showed no election for moderator on first ballot. On second ballot J. M. Tombaugh was elected as moderator. On first ballot for vice-moderator there was no election. On the second ballot W. C. Perry was elected vice-moderator. On acclamation E. E. Haskins was elected secretary. On motion S. J. Harrison was elected press secretary. On motion Zed H. Copp was elected assistant secretary. Moved and carried that David Augustine be elected as treasurer. On motion a finance committee was appointed to look after the expense incident to the park rent, composed of J. C. Cassel, G. W. Rench, R. R. Teeter.

THURSDAY, 1:30 P. M.

Devotional exercises were conducted by Eli Hoover of Waterloo, Iowa.

The minutes of the last session were read and approved.

The committee on credentials reported an additional enrollment of delegates. A motion prevailed that this Conference asks each congregation not represented by delegate, to pay one dollar to help defray expense incident to National Conference, and that the secretary shall notify said churches of this decision and collect payment of same.

On motion the chair appointed a committee of three as a committee on Committees: J. O. Talley, Z. T. Livingood and W. W. Summers. There being no further general business, the regular Conference program was considered.

The second annual report of the secretary of the Brethren Publication Board was read and adopted.

SECOND ANNUAL REPORT OF THE BRETHREN PUBLICATION BOARD

August 1, 1898.	
EVANGELIST Subscriptions,	\$2549 33
Quarterlies,	1170.99
Cheering Words,	576.63
Our Little Folks,	303.90
Books,	226 61
Tracts, Job-work and Advertising,	820.19
Total amount of business done,	\$5647 65
Total amount of expenses,	4952 45
Profit,	\$695 20
Amount of cash received,	\$4967.37
Amount of cash paid,	4819 15
Balance on hand,	\$148 22

ASSETS	
Cash in hand Aug. 1st,	\$148.22
Amount of stock on hand,	375 00
Total amount of outstanding accounts	
Ledger of 1897-98	578 63
Sunday-school Literature,	143 87
Expired Subscriptions on Sub. Book,	240.00
Ledger No. 1 reported last year,	216.75
Ledger No. 2 reported last year,	475.91
Subscription book reported last year,	364.25
Total assets,	\$2542.63

BILLS PAYABLE	
Balance due A. D. Gnagey,	\$1256.00
Wages,	527 70
Books A. J. Holman,	10 47
Paper, Dunklee, Sackett & Co.	94.12
Interest on unsold bonds, A. D. Gnagey,	37.00
Electrotypes, A. Zeese & Son,	7.50
Note S. S. C. E. with interest,	218 36
Interest on bonds,	100 00

Liabilities of the Brethren Pub. Board,	\$2151.15
Total assets,	\$2542.63
Total liabilities,	2151.15
Assets in excess of liabilities,	\$393.48

The above is the account of the affairs of the present Board. It does not include the indebtedness of the Book and Tract committee. The latter is as follows:

The Josiah Keim note,	\$160.00
C. Rowland,	288.43
Interest on Rowland note at 6 per cent	17.30
J. M. Tombaugh, (coupons)	175.00
J. C. Cassel, "	12.50
Wm. Kolb, "	12.50
J. P. Lichty, Holsinger stock,	50.00
S. B. Bickley, "	50.00
C. Meyers "	20.00

Total,	\$785 73
Brethren Publication Board indebtedness,	\$2151.15
20 Bonds at \$125. each,	2500 00
Total indebtedness,	\$5436.88

Outstanding accounts and stock,	\$2167.63
Stock on hand,	375.00
Printing outfit,	2500 00
Total assets,	\$5042.63

Deficit Aug. 1, 1898,	\$394.25
A few comparisons between the business of last year and the year previous may be in order.	
Total amount of business the past year,	\$5647.65
" " " previous "	3944.12

Increase on business,	\$1703 53
The business of the year 1896-97 showed a deficit of \$651.41. The business of the year 1897-98 shows a gain of \$695.20. The report at last Conference showed a total deficit of \$1009 23. In this report that deficit is reduced to \$394.25, showing a net gain of \$614.98. It may also be observed that the expenses of the past year were \$293 70 higher than the year previous, but this was unavoidable with the increased business.	

I think it will be admitted on all sides that this is a favorable report on paper. Yet it has a dark side to it for which the management is in no way responsible,

and that is the impossibility of making collections. There was on Aug. 1st \$962.50 unpaid on accounts of the last year's business and on accounts of previous years there was but \$9.25 paid, excepting what was paid for Sunday-school literature. At a low estimate we appear to have at least \$1000 00 of uncollectable accounts. Comment may not be in place here and yet I cannot forbear saying that this is a deplorable condition of things both because of the money loss and consequent inability of your Board to pay its obligations as it ought, and because of the lack of honesty and integrity it displays within a Christian church whose members are supposed to be reliable. As failure during the year's work would be charged against Bro. Gnagey, the editor, the Board feels that the success which has been scored is attributable to his untiring efforts to give us good literature at the least possible expense.

Kindly submitted by

JACOB C. CASSEL,

Sec. P. B. of the B. C.

At this juncture the committee on Committees signified their readiness to report which was received and adopted. Committee on Religious Services and Supply: W. D. Furry, J. L. Gillin, L. S. Bauman. Committee on Resolutions: E. L. Hilderbrand, W. H. Miller, J. F. Koontz. Committee on Rules: J. Allen Miller, B. F. Puterbaugh, J. C. Cassel.

The next order of business was the election of one member of the Board of Publication. Upon motion it was decided to elect by ballot and that a majority of all votes cast should elect. Should there be no election on first ballot, the two leading contestants shall be the nominees for the second ballot. The first ballot failed to elect; the second resulted in the election of Z. T. Livingood. Term five years.

Upon motion the next order of business was made the election of editor. By motion it was decided that election should be governed by the same resolutions as those affecting the chairman and the member of the Board of Publication. The chair appointed as tellers J. C. Mackey, J. Allen Miller, and J. L. Gillin. The result of the vote was a practically unanimous reelection of A. D. Gnagey. Term four years. At the call of Conference the editor gave a short, pointed address, emphasizing the importance of a stronger literature.

The report of the Conference Finance committee was adopted. The report was as follows:

BILLS REPORTED	
Winona Park Association,	\$100.00
J. C. Ewing, singing,	20.00
Printing & Postage, Brethren Publication Board	16.43
Postage, J. L. Gillin,	1.50
Railroad fare, Leah Sprinkle,	3.60
	\$141.53
Dues from delegates,	\$82.00
First offering,	31.00
Second offering,	14.10
	\$127.10

The committee on Enrollment made final report, 109 delegates enrolled. The report was accepted and the committee discharged.

DELEGATES

Pennsylvania.—Isaac D. Bowman, Jacob